

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NATO 04124 261414Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15  
TRSE-00 /072 W  
-----261418Z 055624 /55

P 261344Z MAY 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3838  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO DA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS NATO 04124

SECDEF FOR ISA AND DDR&E

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OCON, NATO, MILI  
SUBJECT: US-FRG TANK HARMONIZATION

1. THE MAY 25, 1977 ATLANTIC NEWS REPORTS A NEW AGREE-  
MENT BETWEEN THE US AND FRG ON HARMONIZING XM-1 AND LEOP-  
ARD 2. TEXT OF REPORT FOLLOWS. BEGIN TEXT:

A FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARTER PROPOSALS WITH A  
VIEW TO IMPROVED ARMS COOPERATION: ACCORDING TO THE  
DEFENSE MINISTER OF THE FRG, THE UNITED STATES HAVE NOW  
DECIDED TO COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY WITH THE FRG IN STAND-  
ARDIZING COMMON COMPONENTS FOR THE "XM-1" (AMERICAN) AND  
"LEOPARD-2" (WEST GERMAN) TANKS. THIS DECISION IS THE  
SUBJECT OF A "DOCUMENT" DRAWN UP IN WASHINGTON IN THE  
LAST FEW DAYS ON THE OCCASION OF A VISIT BY MR. TRIENES,  
HEAD OF THE ARMS BUREAU OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE IN  
BONN, AND CONSEQUENTLY HAS PUT AN END TO THE UNFAVOUR-  
ABLE CRITICISM LEVELLED BY THE AMERICANS AGAINST THE  
GERMAN TANK IN THE COMPARATIVE TESTS CARRIED OUT IN THE  
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UNITED STATES, A GERMAN SPOKESMAN HAS POINTED OUT. BONN  
AND WASHINGTON ARE, THEREFORE, RETURNING TO THE COOPERA-  
TION AGREED IN AUGUST 1976 BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES,  
ACCORDING TO WHICH AN ATTEMPT WOULD BE MADE TO MAKE THE  
LARGEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF COMPONENTS IN THE TWO TANKS  
INTEROPERABLE. END TEXT.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: VERIFICATION OF ATLANTIC NEWS  
REPORT AND GUIDANCE ON RESPONDING TO RELATED QUESTIONS  
FROM ALLIES.BENNETT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** OCON, MILI, NATO  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC WASHDC MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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